

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00

FEA-01 /091 W

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R 101534Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5255

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NG, CD

SUBJECT: MALLOUM VISIT TO NIGER

1. CHADIAN PRESIDENT MALLOUM WAS WARMLY RECEIVED IN NIGER NOVEMBER 8-9 IN VISIT SERVING PRIMARY PURPOSE OF RE-INFORCING NIGER-CHADIAN SOLIDARITY ON SAHARA BORDER PROBLEMS.

2. MALLOUM WAS GREETED AS COMRADE-IN-ARMS AND WITH MUCH CEREMONY BY NIGER PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE WHO MADE SPECIAL POINT OF RECALLING PERSONAL TIES FORGED WITH CHADIAN PRESIDENT DURING PERIOD BOTH HAD ATTENDED OFFICERS' SCHOOL IN DAKR. KOUNTCHE NOTED BOTH

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HE AND MALLOUM -- ADDRESSED AS "TOI" -- ENGAGED IN

COMMON ENTERPRISE IN BRINGING GOOD GOVERNMENT TO COUNTRIES WHICH HAD SUFFERED BOTH ECONOMIC PRIVATION AND ENDURED INCOMPETENT POST-COLONIAL POLITICAL REGIMES. MALLOUM WAS TREATED TO LARGE CROWDS AND FULL ROUND OF CEREMONIAL VISITS TO FACTORIES, SAMARIAS, ETC. THERE SEEMED RELATIVELY LITTLE TIME FOR WORKING ASPECT OF VISIT, ALTHOUGH LARGE DELEGATIONS ON EACH SIDE MUST HAVE HAD HARD LOOK AT BORDER PROBLEMS WITH LIBYA WHILE COMPARING NOTES ON PETROLEUM EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES IN LAKE CHAD AREA. FRENCH EMBASSY SAYS IT FURNISHED GON WITH DOCUMENTATION ON COLONIAL BORDER TREATIES DAY BEFORE MALLOUM ARRIVED.

3. MOST SALIENT POINT OF FINAL COMMUNIQUE UNDERLINED SUPPORT OF OAU CHARTER, PARTICULARLY PRINCIPLES CONCERNING NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES. IN WHAT STRIKES US AS CURIOUS FORMULATION, COMMUNIQUE NOTED SUPPORT FOR THE "INTANGIBILITE" OF FRONTIERS INHERITED FROM THE COLONIAL POWERS. (COMMENT: WE WILL CHECK FURTHER TO FIND OUT WHETHER THOUGHT HERE IS THAT FRONTIERS ARE SACRED AND INVOLABLE OR WHETHER INTENTION IS SIMPLY TO DESCRIBE THEM AS UNCLEAR.)

4. REST OF COMMUNIQUE NOTES

- ENDORSEMENT OF EXISTING AGREEMENT ON MOVEMENT OF PERSONS ACROSS FRONTIERS,
- ESTABLISHMENT OF A MIXED ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO MEET IN NDJAMENA IN JANUARY 1977,
- REINFORCING WORK OF LCBC,
- SUPPORT FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA,
- ACCEPTABILITY OF GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS DEPENDS ON THEIR RESULTING IN MAJORITY RULE,
- CONDEMNATION OF BANTUSTANS AND TRANSKEI,
- DISAPPOINTMENT WITH RESULTS OF NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND UNCTAD IV.

5. COMMENT: COMMON DIFFERENCES WITH LIBYA MADE THIS VISIT OPPORTUNE. AS BRIEF AS IT WAS, IT MAY HAVE BEEN USEFUL IN  
1) PROVIDING COMMON FOX ON BORDER ISSUES AND A MEASURE OF PSYCHO-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOGICAL REASSURANCE TO EACH SIDE, (2) LAYING MORE GROUND WORK FOR NIGER'S LONG-STANDING PROPOSAL TO HAVE OAU SET UP FORMAL INSTRUMENT-ALITY TO CONSIDER DISPUTED AFRICAN FRONTIERS AND (3) SHOWING THAT SITUATION OF CHAD AND NIGER AND OF THEIR TWO MILITARY LEADERS -- DEDICATED, AUSTERE, AND BESET WITH PROBLEMS -- HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BORDER CONTROLS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NIAMEY05019  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760419-0771  
**From:** NIAMEY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** saccheem  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by saccheem>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MALLOUM VISIT TO NIGER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NG, CD, SS, (MALLOUM, FELIX)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006